Pgh. Press 11/24/76

Reds Called Oswald Kook, CIA Aide Says

WASHINGTON (UPI) — A former senior CIA official said today Cuban and Soviet embassy officials in Mexico City considered Lee Harvey Oswald a "kook" during a 1963 visit there and did not encourage him to kill President John F Kennedy.

David A. Phillips, a veteran of 24 years in the intelligence service including four years in Mexico, said the CIA was aware Oswald contacted Cuban and Soviet officials in Mexico City more than a month before Kennedy was killed in Dallas Nov. 22, 1963.

Phillips, whose duties in Mexico City included keeping tabs on the Cuban embassy, said "my conviction based on my personal knowledge of Oswald's contacts with Cuban and Soviet officials in Mexico City before the assassination is that they considered him a kook and that he returned to Dallas alone."

The Washington Post today said the CIA intercepted and recorded an Oswald telephone call from the Cuban to the Soviet Embassy in Mexico City during his visit but only part of the transcript was sent to the FBI and later to the Warren Commission which investigated the assassination.

The portion concerning Oswald's offer of information was deleted, the Post said. Phillips said he could not recall "any particular document or intelligence report" on the Oswald telephone call.